

H. R. 171.

DECEMBER 14, 1820.

Read twice, and committed to a committee of the whole House
to-morrow.

A BILL

*Further to regulate the entry of merchandize imported into the
United States from any adjacent territory.*

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of*
2 *the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 *it shall be the duty of the master of any vessel, except regis-*
4 *tered vessels, and of every person having charge of any boat,*
5 *canoe, or raft, and of the conductor or driver of any carriage*
6 *or sleigh, and of every other person coming from a foreign ter-*
7 *ritory into any of the interior revenue districts of the United*
8 *States with merchandize subject to duty, to deliver, immedi-*
9 *ately on his or her arrival in such district, a manifest of the*
10 *cargo or loading of such vessel, boat, canoe, raft, carriage, or*
11 *sleigh, or of the merchandise so brought from such foreign*
12 *territory, at the office of any collector or deputy collector*
13 *which shall be nearest to the boundary line, or nearest to the*
14 *road or waters by which such merchandise is brought; and, if*
15 *the master, or other person having charge of such vesssl, boat,*

16 canoe, or raft, or the conductor or driver of such carriage or
17 sleigh, or other person bringing merchandise as aforesaid,
18 shall neglect or refuse to deliver the manifest herein required,
19 or pass by or avoid such office, the merchandise subject to du-
20 ty, and so imported, shall be forfeited to the United States,
21 together with the vessel, boat, canoe, or raft, the tackle, appa-
22 rel, and furniture of the same, or the carriage or sleigh, and
23 harness and cattle, drawing the same, or the horses with
24 their saddles and bridles, as the case may be; and such mas-
25 ter, conductor, or other importer, shall be subjected to pay
26 a penalty of four hundred dollars.

1 **SEC. 2.** *And be it further enacted,* That any deputy col-
2 lector, stationed near the frontier, to whom a manifest of mer-
3 chandise, subject to duty, shall be delivered as aforesaid, is
4 hereby authorized to require of the importer of such merchan-
5 dise the payment of the duties thereon, or good and ample
6 security, either by bond, with one or more sufficient sureties,
7 for the payment thereof, or by the deposit of a portion of
8 such merchandise, equal, at least, to the amount of the du-
9 ties on the whole importation; which bond shall be cancelled,
10 or the merchandise, so deposited, shall be delivered to the
11 owner, on the producing to the deputy collector a certificate,
12 of the collector of the district, that the duties have been duly
13 paid.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all penalties and
2 forfeitures incurred by force of this act, shall be sued for, re-
3 covered, distributed, and accounted for, in the manner pre-
4 scribed by the act, entitled "An act to regulate the collection
5 of duties on imports and tonnage," passed on the second day
6 of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and
7 may be mitigated or remitted in the manner prescribed by
8 the act, entitled "An act to provide for the mitigating or re-
9 mitting the forfeitures, penalties, and disabilities, accruing in
10 certain cases therein mentioned," passed on the third day of
11 March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of
2 the United States be, and is hereby, authorized to cause to
3 be erected, at such place or places as he may deem proper,
4 contiguous to the boundary line between the United States
5 and any foreign possessions in North America, such offices
6 as may, in his opinion, be necessary for the entry of such
7 goods, wares, or merchandise, as cannot be conveniently en-
8 tered elsewhere within the district in which such place may
9 be; and that a sum, not exceeding three hundred dollars, be,
10 and is hereby, appropriated for defraying the expense of the
11 same.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That so much of any
2 act of Congress as is inconsistent with the provisions of this
3 act be, and the same is hereby, repealed.